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House.

WHAT ISSUE, policy, or idea in politics

does Isaac P. Gray represent except get-  
ting and dispensing office?

HEREAFTER Feb. 12, the birthday of

Abraham Lincoln, will be a public holiday

in the State of Illinois. It is one of the

redefining acts of the last Legisla-  
ture.

It is not possible to patent a political

invention the Democratic members of  
the Council would be entitled to a  
patent on the new process of vindication  
by expunging.

GOVERNOR CAMPBELL would be happier

if Hamilton county and its "dums,"  
who can be bought for a glass of beer,"  
could be gerrymandered out of the State  
of Ohio this year.THE Sentinel seems to be laboring un-  
der an impression that its denial of facts  
changes them. This is akin to the Demo-  
cratic idea that expunging a record  
annihilates the truth.

THE Rev. Sam Small has joined the

People's party. Now, if ex-Governor  
St. John, of Kansas, would join the ag-  
gregation, it would be the completest  
political show on earth.

If Governor Buchanan, of Tennessee,

who went to the scene of the miners'  
strike, had not left as he did, the miners  
would doubtless have escorted him from  
the field of danger, as they did his troops.

A KANSAS CITY paper asserts that the

crops on many Kansas farms, this year,  
will sell for more than the land would  
have brought a year ago—all of which  
is more than unfortunate for the calamity  
party.THE prime objective of American states-  
manship should be to make the United  
States as independent of the rest of the  
world as possible, and the rest of the  
world as dependent on the United States  
as possible.It is an off day with Democratic pa-  
pers in the South when they do not con-  
tain editorials entitled "The Democracy  
and the Alliance," in which all show  
that the Democratic party is the natural  
place for the Alliance.

THE New York Advertiser says that it

is generally understood in Democratic  
circles that Governor Hill means to be a  
candidate for Governor again; but the  
Advertiser gives him that it will be the  
end of his political career.

WHEN Col. A. L. Conger, of Ohio

says that the normal Republican ma-  
jority in Ohio is from 20,000 to 30,000,  
he shows a lack of accurate information.  
It is very rare in late years that the Re-  
publicans have carried Ohio by 20,000.

THE Scranton, Pa., Free Press, which

used to support Mr. Powderly, declares  
that he has been too ambitious in a polit-  
ical way, and announces a purpose to  
oppose his election as a member of the  
constitutional convention in that State.

WHEN Isaac Pusey Gray reads the

Sentinel article declaring that Mr. Cleve-  
land is the logical Democratic candidate  
for 1892 unless it is necessary to take a  
Western man, he will look in vain for  
the logical mention of his name as the  
Western candidate.

GEN. J. S. CLARKSON, who has recently

returned from a trip abroad, says:  
"I have never been where the Demo-  
cratic party was as popular as in  
England, and yet I noticed that many  
visiting American Democrats were hard-  
ly proud of such popularity for their party."

It is announced that Grover Cleveland

will make half a dozen speeches in the  
Ohio campaign. This means that he  
finds he cannot rely on his personal in-  
ertia and intellectual ponderosity to se-  
cure the presidential nomination without  
showing his willingness to help his  
party.

THE next Democratic Legislature

should pass a resolution expunging  
from the records all proceedings relative  
to investigations of the Hospital for the  
Insane, the southern prison, etc. Ac-  
cording to the new theory, this would  
prove that there never was anything  
wrong in the management.

EX-CONGRESSMAN GUENTHER, consul-

general of the United States to Mexico,  
who is now in this country on leave,  
says the trade between the United States  
and Mexico has reached very consider-  
able proportions and is steadily increas-  
ing. The common report that England  
and Germany each export more prod-  
ucts to Mexico than the United States  
is not true, for last year this country  
sent thither \$10,000,000 worth more than  
Great Britain, \$18,000,000 more than  
France, \$20,000,000 more than Germany,

and nearly \$5,000,000 more than these

countries and all others combined. The

total imports of Mexico during the year

ending May 31, 1891, amounted to \$40,-  
024,804, of which \$22,669,430, or consid-  
erably more than one-half, were from the  
United States. Of these \$10,293,301  
were admitted free of duty, while  
\$12,376,119 paid duties.

THE PROFITS OF MANUFACTURERS.

No part of the free-trade assault

upon the protective policy has been made

more prominent than the assumption  
that it fosters monopolies which enable  
manufacturers to obtain great profits  
and enrich themselves at the expense of  
the people. The "millionaire manu-  
facturers" and the "baron robbers of the  
cotton-mills and iron furnaces" are cur-  
rent free-trade phrases. The fact that  
certain men have large fortunes is at-  
tributed, by free-traders, to the alleged  
monopoly afforded by the protective  
tariff to manufacturers, when it is a no-  
torious fact that very few large fortunes  
have been achieved by manufacturers.

The Chief of the Massachusetts Bureau

of Statistics and Labor has just issued a  
report entitled "Net Profits in Manu-  
facturing Industries," which shows the  
fallacy of this long assumption of the  
free-traders. Massachusetts is a manu-  
facturing State—all things considered,  
the most important manufacturing State  
in the Union. That its manufacturers  
are growing rapidly is evidence that they  
are prosperous and presumably as  
profitable as in any section of the coun-  
try. The data for the report has been  
obtained from 10,013 establishments de-  
voted to sixty-four different manu-  
facturing industries and embracing 60.21per cent. of the total value of the prod-  
ucts manufactured in that State. Re-  
ports are required to be made  
by corporations, and they embrace  
every item of expenditure for plant,  
labor, material and the value of the  
goods sold, taken from their books.Consequently the result is the net prof-  
its. In the report of the chief is given  
industry after industry, showing the  
profits and losses, the receipts and ex-  
penditures. It may be interesting to  
note a few of them. Of the \$34,314,421  
invested in the boot and shoe industry  
of Massachusetts, returns were made by  
establishments having \$36,561,156 of in-  
vested capital. The excess of the sell-  
ing price above the cost of production  
in 1890 was 10.94 per cent. From this  
must be taken the cost of distributing  
the goods, interest on capital borrowed  
and credit at 5 per cent., and the annual  
depreciation of the machinery, which,  
when done, leaves 4.35 per cent. as the  
net profits of the shoe industry. In the  
carpet industry the net profit was  
0.27 per cent.; on cotton-made  
clothing, 14.05 per cent.; on ready-made  
clothing, 14.05 per cent.; on cotton ma-  
nufactures the net loss on the capital  
invested was 5.77 per cent.; on machines  
and machinery the net profit was 6.76  
per cent., on capital invested; on woolen  
manufactures, net profit, 3.20 per cent.

The recapitulation of the 10,013 estab-

lishments, embracing sixty-four differ-  
ent industries, shows that the excess of  
the aggregate selling price of their prod-  
uct above the cost of production was  
12.95 per cent.; that when the interest  
in cash and credit capital at 5 per  
cent. is paid, and the proper allowance  
is made for depreciation in machinery  
and bad debts, the net profits are re-  
duced to 3.90 per cent., which is equiv-  
alent to 4.83 per cent. on the amount of  
capital invested.These statistics, obtained from ac-  
curate data and made by men of large  
experience, with no motive but to present  
the truth, ought to crush the life out of  
the much-used lie of the millionaire  
profits of the manufacturer; but they  
will not. The free-trade lie runs on  
forever.

THE TENNESSEE MINERS' STRIKE.

The situation in East Tennessee is pe-  
culiar and interesting. The strike of  
the coal-miners is not for higher wages  
nor against any existing grievance, but  
against the anticipated evils apprehend-  
ed from the introduction of convict  
labor in the mines. The law of Ten-  
nessee provides for the leasing or hiring  
out of convict labor to the highest bid-  
der, to be used in labor outside of the  
prison. It is the proposed introduction  
of this labor in the coal mines that has  
brought on the present formidable strike.  
The miners seem to be unanimous  
in the determination that the con-  
victs shall not be permitted to work,  
and threaten to destroy the machinery  
and the mines themselves before they  
will permit it.Undoubtedly, so far as the merits of  
the question are involved, the miners  
are right. We speak of the merits of  
the question without reference to the  
legal aspects. The convict-labor law  
is a thoroughly bad one, wrong in  
principle, mischievous in practice,  
and altogether demoralizing in ten-  
dency. It should never have been  
passed, and ought to be repealed. It is  
the work of a Democratic Legislature,  
probably intended to create a profitable  
monopoly for a Democratic ring of con-  
vict-labor lessees. It is an outrage for  
the State to allow its convicts to be  
placed in the mines to compete with free  
labor, and the public cannot but sym-  
pathize with the miners in their protest  
against it. They would be false to their  
manhood if they did not protest.

On the other hand, there is the law.

Wrong and odious as it is, it is never-  
theless the law. The convicts are not  
responsible for it, neither are the lessees.  
The Legislature which made the law,  
and the people who elected them, are  
responsible. The law has the same  
sanction and authority as any other, and  
it is as much the duty of the authorities  
to enforce it as if it were the most rig-  
orous and popular law in the State.Strictly speaking, the miners have no  
right to resist its enforcement, and in  
doing so they place themselves in the  
wrong. The situation is an embarrass-  
ing one.The course of the Governor seems to  
have been somewhat vacillating. Start-  
ing out with the theory that it was his  
duty to enforce the law and protect the  
lessees and convicts in carrying out  
their contract, he responded to the ap-  
peal of the sheriff by sending a small  
force of militia to the scene of trouble.

These were surrounded by the miners,

captured and sent back. Then the Gov-  
ernor called out a much larger force,  
which rendezvoused on Tuesday at  
Knoxville. By this time the Governor  
seems to have become alarmed at the  
formidableness of the miners' move-  
ment, and began to look about for  
a pretext for retreat. His At-  
torney-general found it in the  
alleged fact that the sheriff of  
Anderson county, where the strike  
occurs, had abandoned his post, and  
therefore the Governor could take no  
further steps to enforce the law. The  
sheriff denies this, and says he is ready  
to assume all the responsibility that be-  
longs to his office, and expects the Gov-  
ernor to do the same. Even if it were  
true that the sheriff had abandoned his  
post, that would not excuse the Gov-  
ernor from the responsibility of enforce-  
ing the law. Ordinarily, of course, the  
civil power is paramount, and the mili-  
tary can only be used when the civil au-  
thorities are unable to preserve the  
peace or enforce the law. The usual  
mode is for the local authorities to  
appeal to the Governor, declaring them-  
selves powerless to enforce the law  
and asking for the intervention  
of the State. But it is absurd  
to say if the local authorities abandon  
their posts and leave the field to a mob,  
that the Governor is estopped from in-  
terfering. Such a condition, instead of  
relieving him from responsibility, would  
only make more imperative his duty of  
enforcing the law. It can hardly be pos-  
sible that the Governor of Tennessee  
really believed that the abandonment of  
his post by the sheriff made it impos-  
sible for the Governor to use any means  
at his command necessary to preserve  
the peace and enforce the law. It is  
more probable that he used this pretext  
to justify him in delay while looking for  
a way to avoid a serious collision with  
the miners.Latest accounts state that after sev-  
eral conferences at Knoxville the Gov-  
ernor had finally ordered the troops to  
the scene of the strike, and that blood-  
shed was expected. It is to be hoped a  
collision may be avoided, although mat-  
ters certainly seem to be approaching a  
crisis. From this distance it would seem  
that the best thing to do is to compro-  
mise matters until such time as the con-  
vict-labor law can be repealed. The law  
itself is deservedly odious, and it is  
evident that any attempt to enforce it  
will result in serious loss of life and  
property. If it were a good or neces-  
sary law this consideration would not be  
entitled to much weight, but under the  
circumstances it is.

THE FIELD FOR RECIPROCITY.

Those who yet think it good politics

to decry the reciprocity policy of the  
administration with the southern coun-  
tries are very emphatic in their declara-  
tions that the trade of all South and  
Central America and the islands adja-  
cent thereto is of little consequence.  
They have made so many people believe  
this assertion that the statement that  
the population of these countries is  
nearly five-sixths as large as that of the  
United States and their aggregate for-  
eign commerce is proportionately as  
large compared with that of this coun-  
try, will surprise many readers. Yet  
such is the case, as the following sta-  
tistics prove:

	Population.	Foreign Trade.
Mexico.....	11,388,664	\$83,726,738
Central America.....	3,131,728	35,942,119
Colombia.....	2,978,609	21,848,344
Venezuela.....	2,234,385	39,210,218
Brazil.....	14,062,335	260,695,000
Argentina.....	4,946,534	29,489,000
Chile.....	2,669,926	119,258,332
Uruguay.....	424,512	27,878,805
Guatemala.....	384,118	23,141,499
Peru.....	2,621,841	14,024,433
Paraguay.....	575,805	2,578,805
Bolivia.....	1,192,162	14,238,332
Ecuador.....	1,004,651	15,539,947
Spanish West Indies.....	2,494,534	138,475,344
Haiti.....	690,000	15,624,769
Santo Domingo.....	613,807	15,624,769
British West Indies.....	1,313,241	55,936,690
French West Indies.....	357,573	16,007,584
Other West Indies.....	70,717	70,717
Total.....	82,778,718	\$1,200,076,453

A policy which has for its purpose the

securing and giving of special trade ad-  
vantages with nearly \$3,000,000 of peo-  
ple who sell to and buy of other coun-  
tries an aggregate of over \$1,200,000,000  
worth of merchandise in a year is not  
one to be sneered at and made the ob-  
ject of political ridicule. At the pres-  
ent time the United States takes only  
about \$300,000,000 a year of the south-  
ern countries, and sends back in part  
payment only \$91,000,000 of its merchan-  
dise in exchange. That is, we now have  
but one-fourth of the trade of the coun-  
tries nearest us and pay them over \$100,-  
000,000 in gold each year, which we can  
very largely pay in the products of this  
country if proper efforts are made to  
extend our trade. The administration  
is making this effort and is using the  
power conferred by Congress to encour-  
age steamship lines to the southern  
countries, to the end that a reciprocal  
trade may be established. Thanks to it,  
the work is too far advanced and com-  
mends itself too strongly to the practi-  
cal intelligence of the country to be  
hindered by sneers and falsehoods.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF SILVER.

The census bulletin devoted to the

statistics of the precious metals during  
the census year shows that the product  
of gold was valued at \$32,898,744, and  
that of silver at \$32,063,000, or \$66,961,-  
988 in coinage value, there having been  
51,309,451 ounces. The gold production  
of the United States is 28, and the  
silver production is 41 per cent. of the  
entire production of the world during  
the same year. For the calendar year  
1890 it is estimated that \$8,707,000 worth  
of silver was used in the industrial arts.  
The natural increase would warrant the  
estimate of 9,000,000 ounces as the amount  
of silver used the past year for the  
industrial arts. Add to this the pur-  
chases by the government under the act  
of the last Congress, namely, 54,000,000  
ounces, and the consumption of silver  
in the United States during the past  
year was 63,000,000 ounces, against a to-  
tal production of 51,309,451 ounces. The  
somewhat surprising inference is that  
unless the output of the mines during  
the year which ended with June 30 is  
much larger than that of the census  
year, the United States consumed during  
the last fiscal year 11,000,000 ounces  
more of silver than it produced. In  
other words, we used almost 21 per

cent. more silver than we produced. If

there has been no variation in the out-  
put of the mines to change these figures,  
which rendezvoused on Tuesday at  
Knoxville. By this time the Governor  
seems to have become alarmed at the  
formidableness of the miners' move-  
ment, and began to look about for  
a pretext for retreat. His At-  
torney-general found it in the  
alleged fact that the sheriff of  
Anderson county, where the strike  
occurs, had abandoned his post, and  
therefore the Governor could take no  
further steps to enforce the law. The  
sheriff denies this, and says he is ready  
to assume all the responsibility that be-  
longs to his office, and expects the Gov-  
ernor to do the same. Even if it were  
true that the sheriff had abandoned his  
post, that would not excuse the Gov-  
ernor from the responsibility of enforce-  
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tary can only be used when the civil au-  
thorities are unable to preserve the  
peace or enforce the law. The usual  
mode is for the local authorities to  
appeal to the Governor, declaring them-  
selves powerless to enforce the law  
and asking for the intervention  
of the State. But it is absurd  
to say if the local authorities abandon  
their posts and leave the field to a mob,  
that the Governor is estopped from in-  
terfering. Such a condition, instead of  
relieving him from responsibility, would  
only make more imperative his duty of  
enforcing the law. It can hardly be pos-  
sible that the Governor of Tennessee  
really believed that the abandonment of  
his post by the sheriff made it impos-  
sible for the Governor to use any means  
at his command necessary to preserve  
the peace and enforce the law. It is  
more probable that he used this pretext  
to justify him in delay while looking for  
a way to avoid a serious collision with  
the miners.There are in the country a considera-  
ble number of people who advocate the  
free coinage of American silver only.  
Unless it is their purpose to give the  
owners of silver mines and silver bull-  
ion \$1 for 80 cents' worth of silver bull-  
ion, there must appear to them no cause  
for such a law, since, under existing  
laws, we are consuming 21 per cent.  
more of silver bullion than we take out  
of the earth.

THE boys about the Sentinel office

ought not to dabble in politics when the  
editor is away. Some one in his ab-  
sence ventured to make the paper say  
that Grover Cleveland was the logical  
and inevitable candidate of the Demo-  
cratic party for 1892, whereupon the ed-  
itor says the statement does not state  
the position of the paper accurately, and  
adds:If the tariff shall be the commanding  
issue of the next campaign, as seems prob-  
able now, Grover Cleveland will certainly be  
a logical candidate possibly the logical can-  
didate. But, on the other hand, circum-  
stances may render it advisable to nominate  
a Western candidate. Certainly it would be  
clearly advisable to do so if it were not for  
the peculiar relation Mr. Cleveland occupies  
to the tariff question. It may be  
thought best to come West for a candidate,  
notwithstanding this. In such event an  
able and well-equipped Indianan will be  
strongly supported.

If Hendricks or McDonald were alive

it would not be out of place for Demo-  
cratic papers to speak of "an able and  
well-equipped Indianan" in connection  
with the presidential candidacy, but un-  
der existing circumstances it is the height  
of absurdity. Until within a short time  
the Sentinel has been an enthusiastic  
supporter of Cleveland as the only avail-  
able and really inevitable candidate.  
The "mistake" made in the absence of  
the editor was simply a following of the  
old lead, and the correction merely  
shows a change of front. The transference  
of the Sentinel's support from  
Cleveland to Gray shows that Isaac has  
a pretty firm grip on the local machine.  
Meanwhile, he should request the editor  
not to be gone over night again.

THE Governor of Minnesota deserves

the thanks of the country for having  
prevented the prize-fight which was to  
have taken place in St. Paul last night.  
In spite of the attempts to surround this  
affair with the respectable atmosphere  
of an "athletic club contest" the fact re-  
mains that it was to be simply a brutal  
prize-fight with all which that implies.  
If prize-fighting is to be made a popular  
pastime in this country, as a large and  
increasing number of persons seem de-  
termined to do, let the laws against it  
be repealed and let us admit frankly  
that we are retrograding towards bar-  
barism. But while the laws against it  
exist they should be enforced. If prize-  
fighting cannot be wholly prevented it  
can, at least, be made respectable and  
its participants and patrons made to feel  
that they are outside the pale of decency.

SPEAKING OF THE roster which the

Democrats of Ohio, as well as of Indi-  
ana, have selected as the emblem to dis-  
tinguish the Democratic ballot, the  
rather Democratic New York Advertiser  
says:Did anybody ever hear of a roster that  
favored civil-service reform, or reform of  
any kind? As a matter of fact, the roster  
is not a Democratic in any sense. He is a  
vain, proud, swell-bellied autocrat of the  
most pronounced variety. He is the mean-  
est aristocrat of the breed. He has a  
one good quality—he is a fighter, but he is  
not a magnanimous fighter. He is too  
much disposed to let his triumphs  
Moreover, the original mump was a  
Shanghai rooster.On the contrary, the Advertiser's de-  
finition of a roster fits the average Demo-  
cratic like a tailor suit made from a  
small pattern.

THE Sentinel is not quite accurate

when it declares that the McKinley law  
will help the Standard Oil Company,  
since, as the largest consumer of tin-  
plates, it would be injured if the price  
of these goods were enhanced by the  
present law. But the Mills bill put tin-  
plates on the free list, and it is intima-  
ted that the political end of the Stand-  
ard Oil Company was influential in se-  
curing it.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE BLOD-

GETT, of Chicago, has just entered his  
seventy-first year. This, in connection  
with the fact that he has served on the  
federal bench twenty years, makes him  
eligible to retirement on full pay for life.  
He has no intention, however, of retiring  
at present, being in good health, and  
disposed to continue in his work until  
he feels the necessity of quitting.ACCORDING to latest advices, the Re-  
publican leaders in Ohio, including  
Messrs. Sherman, Foraker, Foster and  
McKinley, have come to a friendly un-  
derstanding that the senatorial question  
shall be kept in the background until  
after the election, and that the united  
efforts of all shall be directed first to  
carrying the State in November. This  
is a very wise conclusion.

THE job undertaken by Governor

Hogg of ferreting out and bringing to  
justice all the murderers of Texas who  
have escaped punishment during the  
past twenty-five years is stupendous,  
but doubtless he regards it as a trifling  
work compared with the task of reform-  
ing Texas so that the crime ratio of the  
next twenty-five years will be less-  
ened.

ONE of those editorial writers who

ignore facts and deal with opinions  
writes a local editorial for the New York  
Herald, based upon the assumption that  
the prices of the general line of house-  
hold goods are higher now than they  
were before the passage of the McKin-  
ley law. Such individual ignorance

seems impossible, but when such a well-

known and glaring misstatement ap-  
pears in a paper, it looks very much like  
an attempt to deceive its readers.

ST. LOUIS has 400 miles of streets,

every foot of which is sprinkled every  
day, the granite and asphalt pavements  
four times a day, and the macadamized  
or dirt streets three times a day. The  
superintendent of street sprinkling gets  
a salary of \$2,500, while his sixteen as-  
sistants receive \$1,000 each, and \$20 per  
month extra for a horse and buggy.  
Streets are sprinkled for eight and a  
half months, and the cost to the prop-  
erty-owners is five cents per front foot  
each season, or \$1.25 for a twenty-five  
foot lot. The water is furnished to the  
sprinklers free.

DEMOCRATIC newspaper writers, who

have been spending the dull season in  
inventing tales concerning Mr. Blaine's  
health, are now explaining the varie-  
gated character of their lies by charg-  
ing the Secretary's family with prevari-  
cation and concealment of truth. It is  
true Democratic policy to lay the blame  
on the other fellow, even when caught  
with red hands themselves.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Where the Trouble Lay.

"What! You do not even speak! Why, last  
spring you seemed to be the typical two  
souls with a single thought!""Yes, that was the trouble. We both wanted  
to marry rich."

A Wasted Sarcasm.

"If that young man," said the old man, "what your